

# Grapevine

LINCOLN  
*Theater*

*YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND  
THE FREE PERFORMANCE OF THE  
59TH ARMY BAND  
ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 19 AT 3:00 PM  
AT THE LINCOLN THEATER  
VETERANS HOME OF CA, YOUNTVILLE*



**THE 59TH ARMY BAND - CA NATIONAL GUARD**

*Living at the Veterans Home of California in Yountville - Aug 3, 2007*

# Some New Faces and Roles at the Home

By Alan Jessen, Director of Residential Programs

*The GRAPE-VINE*  
Marcella M. McCormack,  
Administrator  
Jody Price,  
Public Information Officer  
Reporters/Columnists: Neil Remnant, Chris Williams, Lou Zauner

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Over the past few months, there have been several additions to the leadership of the Home, including some new faces, some new titles and some changes to the organizational chart.

The positions reporting to the Administrator and Deputy are now referred to as "Directors." Elaine Trujillo reported aboard this month from Chula Vista as our new Director of Nursing. Karen Luke came aboard last month, returning to the Home after nearly a year in Sacramento to become our Director of Operations. Dr. Alan Jessen was selected in May as Director of Residential Programs, which includes all of residential care including the new Behavioral Wellness program. Dr. Paul Loftus, Chief Medical Officer, remains the Director of Medicine.



The Director of Residential Programs is the new position in this lineup. It resulted from a Budget Change Proposal (BCP) effective in Fiscal Year 2006-2007 which established a Behavioral Wellness Program at the Home. Alan Jessen (formerly the Assistant Hospital Administrator) was selected to head this program which oversees Residential Care, Activities, Volunteer Services, Member Helper program, Plant Operations, the Alcohol and Drug Treatment Program and the new Behavior Wellness Service. Dr. Larry Bencich was also hired a few weeks ago as the lead Psychologist to oversee the Residential Care Behavioral Wellness program, which includes a team of social workers, counselors, and other professionals. Other staff are being added, along with expanded programs to promote healthier lifestyles in Residential Care and assist members with things like anger management, nutrition and exercise programs, and getting along in a close community setting. The Behavioral Wellness program also restored the Home's Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program (ADTP) which was cut during a budget drawdown at the Home during the Gray Davis Administration.

The Director of Operations is the other new title for us. Karen Luke was selected to replace Alan Jessen in the former Assistant Hospital Administrator position. The old title no longer fit with the realignment of responsibilities, and so it was changed to Director of Operations. Karen's responsibilities include oversight of General Services (Purchasing, Sanitation, Property, mailroom, laundry, and Dispatch), Security, Central Supply, Food Service, Medical Administration and Chaplaincy programs. She is also the liaison for the Home's Information Services Division (ISD) staff. Karen served here for many years as head of Purchasing and General Services, left the Home last year for an Information Technology position in Sacramento, and re-joined us as Director of Operations.

Some further changes may be made as we continue to organize and staff the Home to meet the changing needs of veterans that we serve today and into the future.



# Residential Care Picnic generates Another Big Turnout



*By Lou Zauner; Photos by Glen Nock, Neil Remnant, Lou Zauner*

Touted as the “Best Picnic of the Year,” the Residential Care annual event held at the Main Picnic Grounds, Saturday July 14, brought forth a crowd of over 500 Home Members, Staff and guests.

Beginning at 11:00 am, the music performed by “The Dry Creek Band,” and the food produced and served by Residential Care Leaders and volunteers continued to flow for the allotted hours; and it took all that time to see that all attendees were well-served.



New York steaks, hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, baked beans, olives, pickles, onions, garlic bread and buns, and watermelon for dessert were on the menu. Beer, wine, iced tea, sodas and water were dispensed from the refreshment stand. Nothing was missing from the lavish barbecue fare.

The country music of the Dry Creek Band added to the day's festivities and brought out dancers who ignored the hot weather to demonstrate their terpsichorean talents. According to Chief of Residential Care Services Margie Patterson, this is the first time the Dry Creek Band has been engaged for performance at the Home; and from all indications they were “crowd pleasers” with anticipation for their return.

*Continued on page 4*







### *Residential Care Picnic continued from page 3*

The Residential Care Picnic started over 20 years ago in Section G. For about 5 years it was held just for that domicile, but became popular with more attendance from the other sections until it was eventually opened for all Home Members. All the planning, work and logistical details are performed by the residential leaders and volunteers who numbered about 30 this year. Financial support for all food, beverages and entertainment are provided by the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fund. There is no charge for Home Members who sign-on to get their tickets. Guests, this year, were admitted for the nominal sum of \$10.

Thank all of you dedicated leaders and volunteers who make the annual "Best Picnic of the Year" such a success.





## Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West Annual Picnic



*By Lou Zauner; Photos by Glen Nock, Lou Zauner*

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual “Visitation to the Veteran’s Home of California” was celebrated on Sunday, July 15 with a generous picnic sponsored by State-wide membership of the Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West Parlors. All Home Members who presented their “blue cards” or tickets were admitted without charge. For guests the steak barbecue cost \$15 with lesser charge for the hot dog plate.

A record 200 plus Home Members were served the steaks, lettuce salad, buns and butter, baked beans and watermelon. Beer, wine, sodas and water were provided at the refreshment stand. Another more-than 150 host members, staff and guests increased the attendees to over 350. Tickets were sold for a raffle of gifts.

The ceremony of Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West included introduction of attending members, patriotic acknowledgements, and the presentation to the Home of special American and California flags for the Memory Care Center and Pathway Home, Bart Buechner accepting.

The Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West is an organization composed of “Parlors” representing the various districts and is over 122 years in the making. The membership is open to those born in California and live here as continuous residents. The organization’s honor to California is laudatory and their many generous contributions to the Home and benevolent causes deserve sincere appreciation.

Our Home Member appreciation and thanks go to you great local Parlors and all members who give so much to the Home!

*Native Daughter Barbara Dulinsky and her daughter Bea Dulinsky, Administrator Marcella McCormack, Native Daughter Lillian Stilson*



*Aug 3, 2007*

## As I Saw It

By Lou Zauner



Perfect weather! Perfect gathering! Perfect picnic! That was what happened Sunday, July 22, beginning at 11 am at the Main Picnic Grounds. With an attendance of over 500 Home and Hospital Members, Staff, volunteers, and, of course, countless host members of the VFW it promised to be one of the best of picnics of the year ... and it was!

While the always-popular Larry Dent Quartet played the music everybody of our generation wants to hear, the lines for the barbecue buffet began but never ended. I have

never seen a picnic with so many hungry guests standing patiently in line for the huge hamburger with all the trimmings that made McDonalds look like a younger brother. Hot dogs were there too, accompanied by the baked beans, macaroni salad, fresh fruit including watermelon, cantaloupe, oranges, bananas, apples. But that wasn't enough ... fruit salad was added. The presentation of a variety of cakes, cookies and chewy brownies had to be sampled. Oh yes, the beer, Pepsi, and water were there too. Something like an hour of serving passed when I finally found the line short enough for a quick lunch.

In addition to personal patriotic pins, which were provided the guests from Commander David Norris, lovely Hawaiian lays were draped over the heads of the guests.

Conversations with our generous hosts brought forth their dedication to veterans and to our Home. The VFW sponsors a program titled "Operation Uplink" which provides phone cards to our troops in battle zones and to veterans in homes for special occasions. What a remarkable gift for the recipient of this card to call the people important in their lives anywhere in the world. Sadly, like all such benevolent gifts, Operation Uplink is in serious need of donations.

Toward the finale of lunch time, the VFW officers and special guests were assembled on the bandstand for introductions and the opportunity to recognize how many Posts and wonderful Auxiliary members contribute to our picnics and other events which have covered over 25 years. In addition to some award-certificates presented for special contributions, the VFW contributed \$1000 to the Home, accepted by Administrator Marcella McCormack and Volunteer Coordinator Susan Heims.

*Continued on page 8*



*Susan Heims and Marcella McCormack are presented a \$1000 check by Kathy Walery representing the VFW.*



# Sonoma County Annual Fair

By Nancy Bueno

It's only natural that I love the Fair. My mother tells me that I've attended fairs every year since 1945. That's pretty remarkable considering I wasn't born until 1946! I guess I truly was born to be a fair participant.

Coming from Indiana, 4-H was an important part of life. The organization is still very active and has expanded to include clubs specializing in the care of domestic pets, such as 4-H Cat Clubs and 4-H Dog Clubs. Until 2000 I was still a part of 4-H, volunteering my time to teach cat care and judge the 4-H Cats at the county fair. Napa doesn't have such a program ... and I miss it.

Senior Day at the Sonoma County Fair was Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. When we left the Home the weather was cool and cloudy, but as soon as we were "over the hill and through the woods" it was a delightful sunny and mild day. As soon as we arrived everyone fanned out to enjoy the day.

This year's theme was "Snoopy" and evidence of the popular Peanuts comic strip could be seen everywhere. I even found poor Charlie Brown stuck in a tree along with his kite! But time was short so I had to hurry to see everything I loved. Unfortunately there wasn't time to view my mother's favorite activity – the horse show. Maybe next year, because I know that I will keep that tradition of the yearly trip to the Fair.



Western Screech Owl at the Wild Bird Rescue.



*right - The 4-H'ers carefully bathe, trim and groom their cows before leading them to the judging ring.*

*below - The lambs are also bathed, trimmed and groomed. Notice that they are not wearing halters or any type of lead? Not allowed. Imagine trying to get a lamb to go where you want. Contrary to popular nursery rhymes, they don't follow you and they don't have tails!*







### *VFW Picnic continued from page 6*

Administrator McCormack, a Life Member of the VFW, thanked the VFW and encouraged veterans to join the organization. Likewise, she proudly stated that “since 1884, the Veterans Home has a history of veterans helping veterans.” She added, “We are eternally grateful to the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization for their contribution to the Home.”

*Louis Webb received an appreciation award for his work with the VFW.*



## Sonoma County Fair

## 🌸 House of Flowers Exhibit 🌸





## ECV benefits Home

On July 14<sup>th</sup> the Sam Brannan chapter of the Ancient and Honorable Order of E. Clampus Vitus (ECV) sponsored their first Poker Run to benefit the Home's Morale, Welfare and Recreation fund.

ECV is a fraternal organization dedicated to the study and preservation of Western Heritage, especially the history of gold mining in the West. The chapters have raised historical plaques in many places throughout the West. Often these are sites overlooked by the more traditional historical societies. With a true sense of fun, a party follows each plaque dedication.

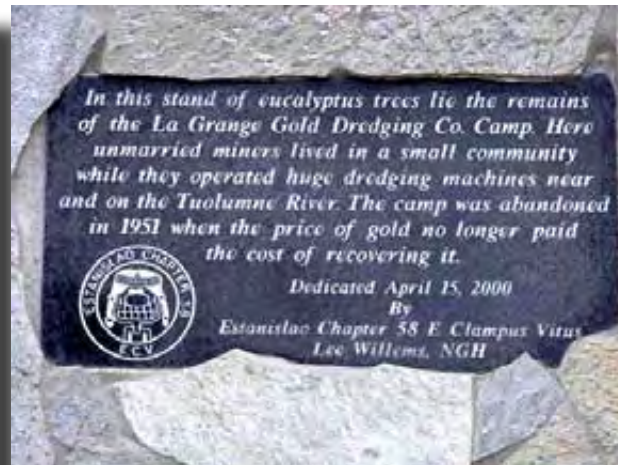
Home Member "Clampers" Darryl Baker and Don Mertens attended the event, and Don's daughter made the run through Calistoga and back to Napa. The route included about 20 historical markers, including a bronze plaque placed in the Home's Cemetery in 1999.

The turnout for the poker run was slight with only 20 riders, but the organizers expect their second year to grow. The "Clampers" are hoping to include classic cars in next year's poker run.



Home Member Darryl Baker is a long-time "Clamper."

*Below the Estanislao Chapter 58 dedicates a monument at Dredge Camp. La Grange, CA - the site of the La Grange Gold Dredging Company Camp. The plaque reads: "In this stand of eucalyptus trees lie the remains of the La Grange Gold Dredging Co. Camp. Here unmarried miners lived in a small community while they operated huge dredging machines near and on the Tuolumne River. The camp was abandoned in 1951 when the price of gold no longer paid the cost of recovering it."*





First, You Learn to Tap Dance ...

Then, You Get Adventurous

By Chris Williams

The Hospital Recreation Area was 'Standing Room Only' when Debbie Sternbach brought her *Fascinating Rhythm* dance troupe to the stage. Beginning with classic tap, they then ventured into clog, Irish, Highland, and even flamenco. Delighted audience members were carried back to the 40's with the jitterbug and the Lindyhop. 71-year-old Phil Trau has lost none of his chops as he executed a classic tap routine that has been passed down through generations.

Among the dances were songs by marvelous Debbie de Coudreaux. Is sultry back? Or did it never go away? Remember their name: *Fascinating Rhythm*. Keep watch for when they come again.





## Residents Crammed! ... Others Slammed!

It may not be the most relaxing reading for a lazy summer afternoon -- the print is small, and the entries often puzzling. However, reading your telephone bill closely can offer surprises (usually unpleasant) and end in saving you money. The pleasure is in stopping the baddies who think they can rob you because you'll never notice.

"Cramming" is when charges for optional services pop up on your phone bill that you never, knowingly, authorized. These can include voice mail, paging, a personal 800 number (you really need one of those, don't you?) or membership in a club you'd rather die than join. How did they get there? Some, in ways legal but unethical. Others, in ways illegal, unethical and undoubtedly sinful. Usually your local telephone company is not to blame.

Rather they came from the vultures that circle constantly around our heads.

You are entrapped when you fill out a contest entry form and don't read all the print like this on the back. Sometimes you were the victim of a negative sales pitch ("Be sure and call us if you don't want this!") Others don't go to all that trouble: they just pick your number out of the blue and notify your provider that you authorized the service. What to do?

Charges for optional services should be itemized and show the name of the company providing them along with their toll-free number. Call that number and insist the charges be removed. If they agree, let your local telephone provider know yourself. (You're through being gullible, remember?) If they don't, tell your local company, instead, that you are disputing the charges. Then, be sweet and conscientious by paying your bill on time and subtracting the disputed amount along with any fees or taxes associated with it. Rarely, the "crammer" has referred the matter to a collection agency. If they do, let the fun begin!

"Slamming" starts in the same manner. Sometimes you receive a check for a buck or two in the mail. Way down in the fine print accompanying it, you will find that, by signing it, you have agreed to change your phone service. Or, you may get a call from a telemarketer touting the advantages of their plan. Even after you tell them "no," they may go ahead and switch you. Again, read all the fascinating entries on your bill. If it shows a different long-distance company, make that call to your local phone company. Ask them how to get back to your preferred carrier with no fee and how to be re-billed at your original company's rates.

Next time, do you see long distance charges for calls you don't remember making? We'll plan what to do.



*Have a question that needs answering? Just ask "Danny the Inscrutable Wizard Cat." He can answer questions that puzzle the Sphinx! Just send your questions to Danny, c/o The Grapevine, Public Information Office. Although he can't answer each question purrsonally, he will attempt to cover the answers with ... uh ... IN the Grapevine.*

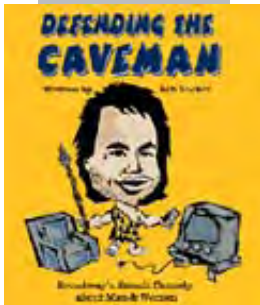


# LINCOLN *Theater*



Sat  
Aug 19  
3:00 pm

**59th U.S. Army Band**, part of the 40th Infantry Division of the California Army National Guard, is one of the oldest bands in the west, dating back to the 1st California Volunteers of 1861. Band performances include a wide variety of music from patriotic selections to the Big Band Era. **Free performance.**



Sat  
Aug 25  
3:00 & 8:00 pm

**Defending the Caveman** - Written by Rob Becker. Defending the Caveman, the longest-running solo play in Broadway history, has now won the hearts of millions worldwide. With hilarious insights on feminism masculinity & erogenous zones, it mines the common themes of relationships to go straight to the funny bone.

Sun  
Aug 26  
3:00 pm

"...Outrageously funny and surprisingly sweet exploration of the gender gap" – Chicago Sun-Times

## State Home Inspection begins August 27

Surveyors from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA San Francisco Medical Center) will be at the Home the week of August 27, 2007 to conduct their annual State Home Inspection.

Ms. Ruth Patience-Midcap, Risk and Customer Service Manager, will be available to meet and discuss concerns with individual Home members on Tuesday, August 28, between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. To schedule an appointment, please call the office of Quality Assurance at 944-4830.

## Napa Valley Museum August Program

Saturday, August 4  
9:00 PM to 10:30 PM



**Star-gazing in the NVM Meadow** with Stuart Alexander, Retired State Park Ranger Ever wondered about the constellations in our Napa Valley nighttime sky? Join former park ranger Stuart Alexander for a stellar evening at the Napa Valley Museum! After a short presentation about summer constellations and night time star gazing, we'll head outside and identify constellations such as Cassiopeia and Subaru. Families are welcome. Please remember to bring a blanket. Free. Call 707.944.0500 for reservations



# Bernard's Sports

On July 19<sup>th</sup> a Pinochle Tournament was held in Lee Lounge. There was a tie for third place. Second place went to Ray Poznick and Steve Springston. The new Champs are John Bolner and Marty Diamond.

Wed	1	10:00 am	Oakland A's vs. Detroit Tigers	MBS
Sat	4	9:30 am	Santa Rosa Simulcast Horseracing	MDR
Sun	5	4:00 pm	Rivercats vs. Ok. Red Hawks	MBS
Thu	9	10:00 am	SF Giants vs. Washington Nationals	MBS
Thu	16	10:00 am	Oakland A's vs. Chicago White Sox	MBS
Sun	19	10:00 am	Oakland A's vs. K.C. Royals	MBS
Wed	22	1:00 pm	Dominos Tournament	GR
Thu	30	6:00 pm	Pinochle Tournament	LL
Mon	13	1:00 pm	"Red Pin" Bowling Tournament	VHL

## August Sports Events

## Sidewalk Repairs

*From Hank Miller, Supervising Groundskeeper II*

Gems Environmental management Services started work on a multi-week sidewalk repair project on Monday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, starting with repair work on the west side of Section 'C'; near the Bandstand and in the Alameda between the Dining Room and Lincoln Theater.

### Upcoming scheduled work:

- North side of Section 'H' is schedule to begin July 30<sup>th</sup>
- Chapel is scheduled to begin August 6<sup>th</sup>
- North side of Annex II is scheduled to begin around the second week of August.

Please watch for further up dates as the construction project proceeds. Please direct your comments or questions to Hank Miller at 944-4807.

## Borman Baseball

Date	Game Time
Sat, Aug 4	9:00 am 12:00 pm 03:00 pm
Sun, Aug 5	9:00 am 12:00 pm 03:00 pm
Mon, Aug 6	9:00 am 12:00 pm 03:00 pm
Tue, Aug 7	9:00 am 12:00 pm
Wed, Aug 8	
Thu, Aug 9	
Fri, Aug 10	
Sat, Aug 11	10:00 am 01:00 pm 04:30 pm
Sun, Aug 12	10:00 am 01:00 pm 04:30 pm
Mon, Aug 13	10:00 am 01:00 pm 04:30 pm
Tue, Aug 14	10:00 am 01:00 pm 04:30 pm

American Legion  
State "A" Tournament

Field Closed

American Legion  
State "B" Tournament

## 2007 Grapevine Deadlines and Distribution Dates

*Please note new deadlines:*

Month	Deadline	Distribution
Aug	10, 24	3, 17, 31
Sep	7, 21	14, 28
Oct	4, 19	12, 26
Nov	2, 14, 30	9, 21
Dec	14, 28	7, 21





## Residential Care Special Events

*Signup available 2 weeks before event.*

*Sign up early! Activities can fill quickly. All activities are subject to change due to bus and driver availability.*

Aug 2007

Date	Time	Event	Bus	Site	Signup
4 Sat	8:00 am	Peddlers Faire		GH	
	9:30 am	Horse Race Simulcast (Santa Rosa)	MDR		Yes
		Am Legion "A" Tournament <i>see schedule page 13</i>		Bor	
5 Sun	7:30 am	Drag Races, Infineon Raceway	MBS		Yes
		Am Legion "A" Tournament <i>see schedule page 13</i>		Bor	
	11:00 am	Amercian Legion Picnic		MPG	
	4:00 pm	Rivercats vs. Ok. Red Hawks	MBS		Yes
6 Mon		Am Legion "A" Tournament <i>see schedule page 13</i>		Bor	
7 Tue	9:00 am	Ticket Tue		LL	
		Am Legion "A" Tournament <i>see schedule page 13</i>		Bor	
8 Wed	9:00 am	Allied Council		GH	
	12:30 pm	LeMelange	MDR		Yes
9 Thu	10:00 am	Remembrance		Chp	
	10:00 am	Giants vs. Washington Nationals	MBS		Yes
11 Sat		Am Legion "B" Tournament <i>see schedule page 13</i>		Bor	
	10:00 am	Fairfield Mall Shopping	MBS		Yes
	2:00 pm	Poets & Writers		LL	
12 Sun	7:30 am	Senior Center Breakfast	MBS		Yes
		Am Legion "B" Tournament <i>see schedule page 13</i>		Bor	
13 Mon		Am Legion "B" Tournament <i>see schedule page 13</i>		Bor	
14 Tue		Am Legion "B" Tournament <i>see schedule page 13</i>		Bor	
19 Sun	3:00 pm	<b>59th Army Band - free performance</b>		LT	

**Key – 1C/1D:** Hospital 1C/1D patio; **Bor:** Borman Field; **Chp:** Chapel; **GH:** Grant Hall; **GR:** Games Room; **HL:** Hospital Lobby; **HRA:** Hospital Recreation Area; **Lib:** Lincoln Library; **LL:** Lee Lounge; **LT:** Lincoln Theater; **MBS:** Main Bus Stop; **MDR:** Main Dining Room; **MPG:** Main Picnic Grounds; **SF:** San Francisco; **Tav:** Tavern; **VHC:** Veterans Home Cemetery; **VGC:** Vintners Golf Course; **VHL:** Veterans Home Lanes; **XI:** Annex I; **XII:** Annex II; **Ynt:** Yountville; **YVP:** Yountville Veterans Park.

## News from the Video Library

**F**irst, a "thank you" to James Movinski of Carmichael, CA for his donation of 20 DVDs.

As you know, the Member Services Building (formerly the Recreation Center) will soon be closing for renovation and the Video Library will be moved. Our Moving Sale has begun! Come choose from our many **VHS tapes for just \$1 per tape or \$2 for three tapes.** The proceeds from the Moving Sale will purchase DVDs for our Home Video Library. ***The Video Library hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.***



# MOVIE NIGHT IN GRANT HALL



## Fri, Aug 3 – "Pan's Labyrinth"

A new (2006) drama set at the end of the Spanish-Civil War stars a 12-year-old girl who becomes caught up in a fantasy world. The suffering of war mixed with a child's confusion over what is real and what isn't. The special universe is satisfying. A very good film.

## Wed, Aug 8 – "Mister Roberts"

An excellent 1955 comedy-drama stars Henry Fonda, James Cagney, Jack Lemmon, Wm. Powell, Betsy Palmer and Ward Bond. Fonda recreates his long-running stage role as a restless officer aboard a WW2 cargo ship with Cagney as an eccentric captain. Lemmon won Best Supporting Actor Oscar as Ensign Pulver.

★★★★★



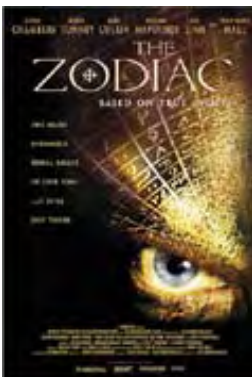
## Fri, Aug 10 – "Miss Potter"

A new (2006) charming film is a beautiful biography of Beatrix Potter, the creator of Peter Rabbit. Stars Renee Zellweger and Ewan McGregor. A lovely pleasure for adults and children. ★★★

## Wed, Aug 15 – "Midnight Cowboy"

A 1969 outstanding drama stars John Voight, Dustin Hoffman and Sylvia Miles. Hayseed

Texan Joe Buck (Voight) comes to N.Y.C. in hopes of becoming a freelance stud, and develops unusual and deep friendship with seedy Ratso Rizzo (Hoffman). Seamy side of N.Y. City is backdrop for this excellent character study. Won Best Picture, Director and Screenplay Oscars. ★★★★★ Advisory note: strong language and sexual content.



## Fri, Aug 17 – "Zodiac"

A new (2007) drama stars Jake Gyllenhall, Robert Downey Jr. and Mark Ruffalo. Based on the true story of still-unsolved 1970s serial killings in the San Francisco Bay Area, including Napa area. Newspapermen and S.F. detective become obsessed with the case which results in an above average film.



**MOVIE SPECIAL**

**GRANT HALL**  
Theater doors open at 5:15 pm  
Wednesdays & Fridays

Special selected presentations at 5:30 pm

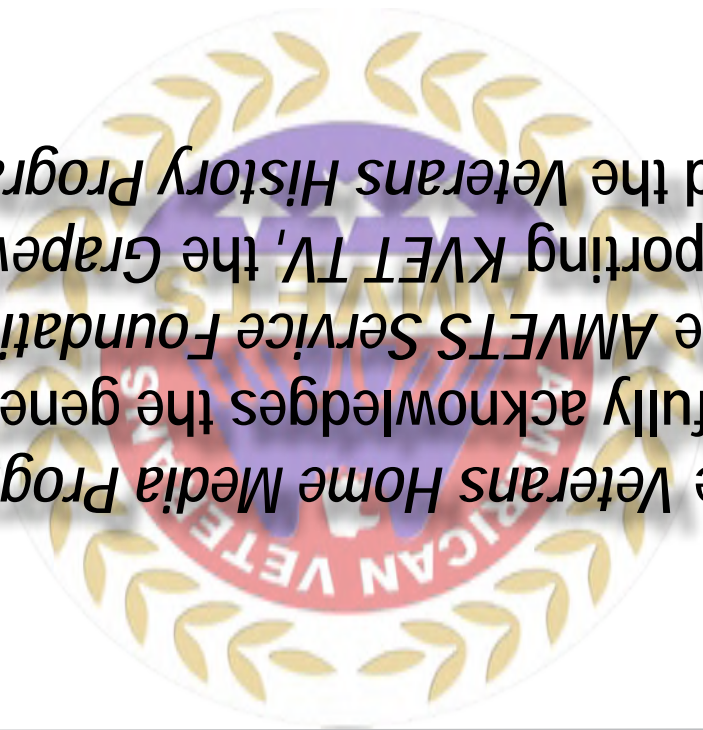
Feature Film begins at 6:00 pm

The Digital Theater is sponsored by the Veterans Remembrance Committee, The MW&R Fund and AMVETS

Neil Remnant,  
Movie Coordinator



*The Veterans Home Media Program  
gratefully acknowledges the generosity  
of the AMVETS Service Foundation in  
supporting KVET TV, the Grapevine,  
and the Veterans History Program.*



## GRAPEVINE

Veterans Home of California  
P.O. Box 1200  
Yountville, CA 94599-1421

For  
Information  
about the  
Veterans  
Home  
call: 1-800-  
404-VETS

